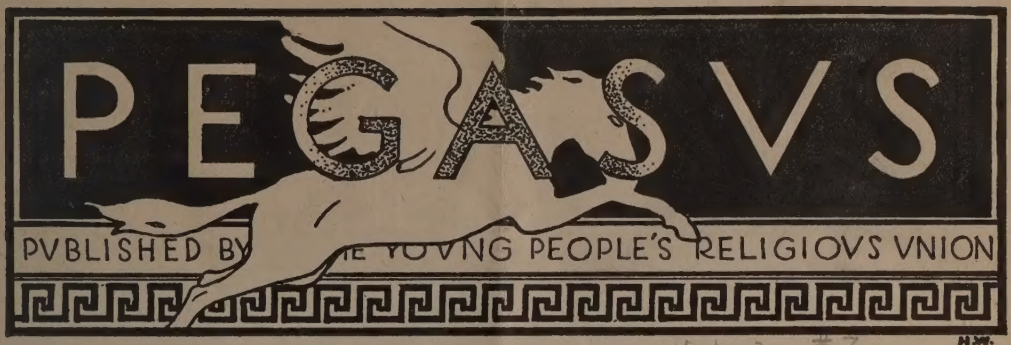

VOL 2 #7

IT MUST NEVER HAPPEN AGAIN

Another Point of View

By Malcolm C. Rees

I read with regret the article in Pegasus for March entitled, "It Must Never Happen Again". The extremist invariably defeats the very object he holds most dear, by antagonizing all who cannot see eye to eye with him. Any extreme statement on a decidedly controversial point tends to make converts for the other side. This very article will force many of us who have had some experience with United States Army Officers to rise to the defense of the army. And the same thing works on the other side of the fence. I never feel so strongly disposed towards disarmament as when I have heard or read some wild bombastic talk by a flag-waving politician who denounces all other nations as robbers, and howls for a hugh American Army to settle the affairs of the world.

But Mr. Rockwell's article might be summed up as follows: "Militarism is rampart in our educational institutions; the mind of youth is being molded toward war; down with militarism". Well, well, what is this militarism about which Mr. Rockwell is so excited? According to his figures, 507 hours in four years! There is militarism for you!

Now I have served over two years in the army during the war, and have been a reserve officer for six years and was also a member of the R. O. T. C. at Harvard, and the ideas Mr. Rockwell has of the R. O. T. C. seem to me just a mite amusing. School and college R. O. T. C. units are not so imbued with the spirit of the Infantry Drill Regulations as to be a menace to the clear thinking of our youth on national and international affairs. Compulsory training is one thing; voluntary training is another. I can assure Mr. Rockwell that the R. O. T. C. units in America will not cause serious consternation abroad; and when he speaks of "the grave danger that under the guidance of military men there will grow up a professional war-thinking, war-planning, war-glorifying class, he simply indicates a complete lack of knowledge of his subject, which destroys the effect of what good points he makes. Nobody familiar with the type of men serving as officers in the United States Army today could make such a statement.

The R. O. T. C. plan is a precautionary reserve which, in the event that war should come, would be one of the greatest use to the country. The training is with this end in view. It is not an army, or anything like one, but it would give us a nucleus from which to work in time of war. That is the purpose of the R. O. T. C. No attempt is made to glorify war. I have yet to meet a regular army officer who minimized war's horrors, and as a matter of fact, the closer one comes to the realities of war, the greater one's desire to avoid it. And the massacre of untrained troops is worst of all.

I do not believe that Mr. Rockwell seriously advocates disarmament by the United States at this time. We have today about 118,000 men in the regular army, not a huge force for a nation of over 100,000,000. We are not, and never will be a militaristic people. And what better plan can we devise for giving us the minimum of protection than that of a very small standing army, with some provision for a reserve in time of emergency?

Yes, we all want peace; some of us believe one method of insuring it is preferable to another, and vice versa. But I think a reasonable degree of tolerance for the sincere views of the other side is distinctly advisable if progress is to be made, especially if we do not know any too much about the details of the matter in question. Lack of definite knowledge of the facts is a serious drawback to advancement, and antagonism will not take its place.

Army men and civilians alike agree that it must never happen again, but until we can say with assurance that it never will happen again, let us look at the R. O. T. C. as a reasonable insurance measure, not militarism.

THE CHALLENGE

Our challenge comes—in accents clear it cries;
"A noble task, O Man, before thee lies.
The time to act is now—the place, this sphere;
Strive on, that thou may'st build thy heaven here."

AN INTERVIEW WITH THE MID-WESTERN FIELD SECRETARY

By Eleanor P. MacGregor

It was late afternoon and as the train sped through the countryside I began to notice that something was different. Yes, Spring was rapidly approaching, its newness was everywhere in the colorful blossoms, budded trees, a few wild flowers and soft green grass. After the cold and snow I had left behind me in the north, Texas, in its newness, was almost Paradise to me. I felt inspired. Yes, I could move mountains.

Wanting to see it all, I wandered back to the observation car to scan the vast Texas prairie, so wide, so far, and so free. There, serenely taking it all in, was a familiar figure. I could hardly believe my own eyes. Before me was someone I had never expected to find in Texas. Just then the Mid-Western Field Secretary of the Young People's Religious Union turned and saw me. It certainly was great to see a familiar face so far away from home.

Of course, I asked why she was in Texas. "I am on a six-week's trip", she replied, "I have visited Indianapolis, Indiana; Shelbyville, Illinois; St. Louis, Missouri; Tulsa and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma; Dallas, Texas; and am now on my way to New Orleans, Memphis, Nashville, Louisville, Cincinnati, and Dayton. Like Saturday's Child, I still have far to go. I have covered over 1800 miles on this trip so far, and have just about the same distance to go before I return to Chicago."

Question after question poured forth, for I wanted to know how she really felt about her work. She said, "I love the work. The churches, the people, the communities fascinate me. Each church, with its problems, its failures and its successes, the people so interested, so cordial and so sincere, are all fascinating. The thing that inspires me the most is the young people that I meet, so young, so full of life, so anxious to learn. We must let them know that we have confidence in them, for it is not only the good times that they want, but the bigger and better things of life. If I only had time to tell you of all the splendid things they are doing. These young people are unselfish, honest, and unafraid. I am proud to be one of them."

Our Secretary went on, "I find it so hard to go from group to group, because I always want to stay and become part of each group. I want to vote, and express my ideas. Just as we get to be good friends, it is time for me to go to the next place, but oh the letters I receive, and I do like to get them, to hear what they are doing, and to tell others about them".

"What factor", I asked, "do you consider to be the chief one in making a group a success?"

She answered, "Little things well done. So many groups would grow stronger, if they would only realize the value of "The Little Things."

I next asked, "If you were giving words of advice to a group, what would they be?"

The answer that I received was this. "Each group is different. Things I might say to one might not be needed by another, but on the whole there are certain principal factors to be considered and attention paid to. I would tell a group to be original, to think each thing out carefully, to learn to value time and perhaps the most important is to have confidence in themselves. The group that hasn't confidence in itself is usually a failure. The group that has confidence most always has a goal. We find such splendid, worth-while groups with goals; Denver, St. Louis, Underwood, and many others."

"What of the Summer Conferences I have read so much about," I asked.

"I wish that every group in the country could send representatives to these Conferences. I cannot explain in words the effects of these camps and conferences but I sincerely believe them to be one of the greatest achievements in the history of the Unitarian Young People."

"What section of the country is to you the most interesting?"

"The South."

"And Why?" I ventured.

"Because it is so big and vast, and it means a fight. We need men in this Southland like the Channings and the Parkers of yesterday. Men unafraid, men willing to work, to build and to fight. To me it is the greatest challenge to the youth of today. It is opportunity knocking at the door of the future."

Later as we stood on the observation platform watching the sun bid the day farewell, the prairie before us, so wide and free, the sky with its beautiful yellow, gold and red, the Secretary said without taking her eyes from the landscape: "Does not this glorious day remind you of a piece of work, a piece of work well done, with this sunset its crowning glory? Here we are the youth of today with the vast prairie of life ahead of us. As in the prairie there will be few trees to shelter us, and the days will not always be Spring; often times we shall not see the sun. We must teach ourselves that after the Winter, the Spring will return—and that after the clouds lift we shall again see the sun. We must believe that life is good, for it is. We must have imagination to picture the future. The future and the will to do and dare are ours. Let us journey through our prairie towards our setting sun, quoting Edwin Arlington Robinson;

"We are the children of the Light
Let us tell the ages what we are."

ANNUAL MEETING OF THE Y. P. R. U.

The Annual Meeting of the Young People's Religious Union will be held in Boston, Massachusetts, on Friday, May 27th. It is time to begin thinking about sending delegates to this meeting. Let's try this year to have more representatives from other states than Massachusetts. This meeting comes at the end of Anniversary Week of the American Unitarian Association and your church without doubt will be represented at these meetings by the minister and possibly one or two lay delegates. If you cannot send a delegate from among the young people, won't you urge upon the delegates from your church the fact that they will be welcome at this Y. P. R. U. meeting? Ask them to plan to stay over and take back to your Society some of the enthusiasm.

The Annual Meeting will be held in the Meeting-House Hill Church, Dorchester. Supper will be served at 5:30, at which time the Efficiency Cup will be presented to the Society which has won the greatest number of points in the Efficiency Estimate. At 6:50 a one-act play will be presented, and at 7:30 a short Devotional Service will be held. The business meeting will commence at 7:45.

On Saturday, May 28th, the Annual Picnic will be held beginning at 3.00 P. M. There will be a baseball game, field sports, and picnic supper followed by dancing until 11:00 o'clock. Plan to have your delegate stay over for the picnic also, to join in the good time, to renew old friendships and make new ones.

The Annual Meeting and Picnic might well be called a stepping stone towards Star Island. Come and catch a bit of the spirit of the Y. P. R. U. to carry back to your group.

LOCAL STATIONS

From Coast to Coast

MID-WEST GLEANINGS

The Denver, Colorado Y. P. R. U. is very active. The lowest attendance at their meetings is 30 members and sometimes they have between 60 and 70. They are raising money to send a delegate to the Shoals this year, as their President, Bessie Daniels, enjoyed the Star Island Conference last year. The club corresponds regularly with one of their members who is in the Navy. They put on a program of music for the Old Ladies Home, and decorated the hall for the Alliance bazaar. The girls of the group always do all the serving for the Alliance dinners. From what we hear of Denver, we expect to find her among the first ten in the Efficiency Estimate.

On Sunday, March 6th, the Y. P. R. U. of Oklahoma City was organized.

It is rather late, but we want you all to know that the Huse Guild of the Church of the Messiah of St. Louis, went carol singing Christmas Eve and raised between Eighty and Ninety dollars for Charity. Recently they were hosts to a party from a Children's Institution of the city.

The Triangle Club and the Channing Club, of Cleveland both met on Sunday evening, March 20th. Mr. Lupton addressed the former on "Has Psychology Dispensed with the Soul?" Dr. Hippolyte Gruenner, head of the Chemistry Department of the College for Women, spoke to the Channing Club on "Search for Gasoline Substitutes."

We are about to let you in on a great secret. We have discovered Pegasus Junior. We found it in Moline, Illinois, the cleverest little magazine published monthly by the Moline Y. P. R. U. They make a copy a month. It contains a feature article, biographies, jokes, cartoons, poems, etc.

PACIFIC COAST

The Young People on the Pacific Coast very generally observed "Young People's Sunday. Special services, conducted by young people were held at Los Angeles, San Jose, Palo Alto, Berkeley, Oakland, and Fresno, California; Portland, Oregon; Seattle, Washington; Victoria and Vancouver, B. C. At San Francisco the Starr King Society held a Candle Light Service. The two California federations held meetings simultaneously at Los Angeles and Berkeley on February 13th.

Three new Societies have recently been organized: at Sacramento as a direct result of two young people attending the Federation meeting at Berkeley; at Alameda; and the Charles W. Eliot Society at the University Church, Seattle. At least two societies have in the last few weeks affiliated with the Y. P. R. U., Victoria and Los Angeles. At San Jose the "R Club" is growing stronger each week, recently they were royally entertained by their minister's wife, Mrs. William I. Lawrance. The newly organized group at Almeda is preparing a play as is the Starr King Society at San Francisco.

In April the Redlands Society is to entertain the Southern California Federation over a week-end. This plan was most successfully carried out last year.

Progress is being made on the erection of the Channing Club (Berkeley) Cottage at Iverness. This is being built by the young people themselves and should be well advanced for their regular Camp which meets in May. At Carpenteria, Southern California, quarters have again been secured for a summer camp and an attractive program is in the making.

The Rowell Club, Fresno, conducted a most successful Washington's Birthday party. The members are constantly helping in the services of both the Church and the Church School.

We are trying hard to get two or more delegates to Star Island this summer. We may succeed. If wishes were conveyances and the "wherewiththal", the Oceanic Hotel could not accommodate the young people from the Coast.

There are now fifteen active young people's Societies on the Coast. We are hoping to have most of these affiliated with the Y. P. R. U. before April 1st.

NEW ENGLAND NEWS

On Sunday, March 13th, a vesper service was held at the Unitarian Community Church of Reading, Massachusetts, under the auspices of the Reading Y. P. R. U. Mr. Clarence H. DeMar, a resident of Melrose, and a three-times winner of the B. A. A. Marathon, was the speaker of the evening.

The Town and Gown Club is a flourishing organization this year with regular gatherings on the third Tuesday of every month at Unity House, Boston. It is purely a social organization and all expenses are covered by a moderate admission fee. On March 15th, it held a St. Patrick's Day party, and to judge from the appearance of the ball-room, it surely seemed like a case of "The Wearing O' the Green." The customary two hundred turned out on this occasion.

During the week, Sunday, March 13th, through Sunday, March 20th, the Unitarian Laymen's League in cooperation with the First Church in Boston and the ministers and chapters of the League in the Unitarian churches in Greater Boston conducted one of its noted missions. The Rev. Horace Westwood, D. D., Mission preacher of the League from Toledo, Ohio, was the speaker at this course of eight meetings. Wednesday, the 16th, was set off for the Y. P. R. U. Rally Meeting, and the subject discoursed upon at that time was, "Will Science Abolish God?"

Melrose, Massachusetts, Y. P. R. U. held its regular bi-monthly meeting on February 27th. Mr. George A. McPheters, a teacher at the local high school, and a prominent worker in Hi-Y work throughout New England, was the speaker. His subject was, "What Stuff Heroes?"

(Continued on Page 4)

(Continued From Page 3)

"Art" Olsen, President of South Middlesex Federation and well-known worker among Unitarian young people has recently left for Florida with his brother in their "Mayflower." From that point, they will head toward California and the Pacific Coast. It is possible, if "Art" finds something that interests him particularly, that he will settle down in that section of the country. We all will miss him here in New England but know that the Pacific Coast will now come into the lime-light with two such men as Carl Wetherell and Art Olsen in the same neighborhood.

The New England sub-Executive Committee headed by Frederick T. McGill, Jr. of Newton Highlands, is trying out a novel idea. A "caravan" of Y. P. R. U. officials (several automobile loads) visited the Medfield, Massachusetts church, attended the Sunday morning service, and afterwards met the young people. Visits to several churches in the near vicinity of Boston are being planned for the near future. If these "caravans" are successful the plan may be carried out in centers other than Boston.

Bay Shore Federation will give a Ball on April 8th at Ventress Hall, Marshfield, Massachusetts. Pioppi's orchestra will furnish the music. Ruth Stodder of Marshfield is in charge.

New societies are being formed in Bangor, Maine; Whitman, North Easton and Winthrop, Massachusetts.

The Townsend Club of Medfield, Massachusetts, is going to conduct the devotional service at a series of Sunday evening meetings during Lent. Rev. Anita Pickett will give the addresses and lead discussion.

An interesting feature of the Young People's Sunday service at Westboro, Massachusetts was the reading by Mrs. Helvie, the minister, of the essay which won the prize in the "World Tomorrow" contest, on "What Youth is Thinking."

Marshfield Hills, Massachusetts, has a new society called the Triangle Club, the name being adapted from the Y. P.. R. U. pin. The church is a community church, Baptists, Congregationalists, and Unitarians worshipping together. On January 30th, the members of the club took complete charge of the morning church service. On February 27th they held a community service, a religious meeting, in one of the large halls of the village. Charles S. Bolster spoke on "What Young People Can Do for the Community." The Triangle Club has offered its services to the Women's Alliance and to the Neighborhood Aid Society for the doing of welfare work.

Littleton, N. H. has inaguratēd the custom of holding candlelight. On February 24th they held a public whist party at the Community House. On March 17th they held a card party and dance in the form of a St. Patrick's party.

NEW YORK

On March 19th, the Unity Club of the West Side Church, New York City, held a most successful dance in the social hall of the church. Several members entertained during the evening with exhibition dancing and vocal selections. An unique "stunt" at West Side dances, is the elimination dance in the form of a Lemon and Lollypop contest. Each man must surrender his partner to the person who hands him a lemon and those left at the end with a lemon and no partner must pay a fine of five cents. The lollypop is used the same way with the girls.

The Old Fort Club, Brooklyn, New York, has held a series of Bridge parties during March. These have been very successful and have been well attended by the older people of the church as well as the young people.

Professor Harry Overstreet, was the speaker at the March Forum of the Old Fort Club.

On March 25th, the Old Fort Club held its Annual Spring Dance. The undercroft of the church was very prettily decorated in pastel shades. Music was furnished by the Poly Prep Ochestra of Brooklyn.

The Metropolitan Federation of Young People will hold its Third Annual Little Theatre Tournament, on May 14th. The silver cup has been won the last two years by the Meeting House Theatre Group, of the West Side church. This will be the deciding year, as the group winning the cup three consecutive years keeps it. There will be keen competition in the Tournament this year.

A motion picture of the FitzPatrick "Music Master Series" was shown at the meeting of the Young People's Society of Unity Church, Montclair, New Jersey, on Sunday, April 3rd. This reel was about Beethoven and the music for it was from his works. Robert Reich had charge of the supper for the meeting.

The following program has been carried out by the Ithaca Young People's Religious Union during March.

March 6th, supper and discussion. Subject: "The Purpose of Discussion."
Leaders: Whitney Tucker and Philip Tucker.

March 13th, The group was addressed by Professor G. A. Everett.

March 20th, Subject: "The Protestant Confessional."
Leaders: Ruth Ellenwood and Miriam Bloomer.

March 27th, Subject: "The White Man's Burden."
Leaders: Katherine Riegger and George Conklin.

An Isles of Shoals Reunion, under the auspices of the National Y. P. R. U. and the Metropolitan Federation, will be held at Unity Church, Montclair, N. J. on April 24th. Supper will be served at 6:30. The speakers for the evening will be Rev. Edgar Swan Wiers, of Montclair, Thomas Hoag, Chairman of the Shoals Committee for 1927, and Sara Comins, Executive Secretary of the Y. P. R. U., who will tell in her inimitable way, some of the Shoals lore. A number of Old Shoalers, from Boston are expected to attend the Reunion and the Metropolitan District is eagerly looking forward to seeing many of the friends made at the Shoals in the years gone by. All who will be in this vicinity at that time are cordially invited to be present. David Stickney (known to last year Shoalers as Dimples), of Montclair, is in charge of arrangements.

The Junior League, a group of young girls of the Mt. Vernon Unitarian-Universalist Church, has recently been formed. The group is very active and are considering entering the Little Theatre Tournament of the Metropolitan Federation. On April first they held their first Guest night.

HAVE WE A NEGATIVE FAITH?

By Albert Pleydell

We are all familiar with the charge that Unitarianism has outlived its usefulness. Even among our own members, there are those who are prone to say that there no longer exist the causes which brought into being our faith, and hence, we ought to give up the ghost, so to speak.

Perhaps it might be well for just a moment to see just what ground there is for this accusation. The zeal of that earliest of Unitarian martyrs, John Huss, was the direct outcome of the iniquities and malpractices of the Christian Church of his day. And the noble utterances of William Ellery Channing were a rebuke to the smug orthodoxy of his time. Even Emerson, liberal poet and philosopher, met with a barrier of bitter creeds and dogmas.

But today we find that the leaders of the orthodox sects are daily giving out messages to their flocks which fifty years ago would have been heresy of the rankest sort. Over one hundred ministers of all creeds have signed a statement of faith which is, to all practical purposes, Unitarian in intent, and this but a few weeks ago.

It seems as though there were considerable ground for the allegation that Unitarianism has outlived its usefulness, since the world is fast becoming more and more liberal. But there is another side to the picture.

Today there exists a challenge as strong, as all-powerful, as the older challenge of dogmatism. There is a job, to put it plainly, for every Unitarian to undertake. A task which will make ours a faith which is not negative, but which is positive, not one which says: "I do not believe this, or I cannot accept that," but one which says: "For this do I stand."

Protestant Christianity is now divided into almost countless sects, and subdivided even beyond that, or if not quite that bad, that at least is the attitude of the man of the street. "What of it?" some ask, "we can't help it, and we can't do anything about it." But we can! How? Not through the older folk of the churches, but through the young people, through ourselves, can this be accomplished. As this must sound pretty strange to those who live in orthodox communities, I am going to tell you what one society of the Y. P. R. U. has done, and then leave the answer to your own judgement.

Plainfield, New Jersey, is an orthodox community. The Unitarian church is by no means large, and its young people's society numbers about 15. The last Sunday in January they visited, as official guests the young people of the Presbyterian Church. The visit was in every way a success. Then but a few days ago, a meeting was held in the parish house of the Unitarian Church, which was jointly sponsored by the Presbyterian and Unitarian groups, and to which all other Protestant organizations were invited. It was in the nature of a forum, on the subject of "The Next War, and Its Challenge to Youth." In every way this meeting, which was brought to a climax by the conducting of a Shoals Candlelight Service, was a success.

Common ground, in the following of the teachings of Jesus of Nazareth, binds all Chritianity together. The challenge to our Unitarian faith today, is to do our part in building one Church Universal. Do we accept the challenge?

AN APOLOGY

The January issue of Pegasus contained, on page 4, a poem "Bishop and Painter", by Miss Katherine Lewis. Through an unfortunate oversight the last two lines of the poem were omitted. The editors wish to apologize for this error and are reprinting the poem, in its proper form, below.

"Well has the work in this new church progressed;
Indeed the holy fathers will be pleased!"
"And yet it lacks the power of young thought.
Do you not think that painting on a wall
Should waken sleeping thought of doing right?
How can suggestion that hides meaning true
Create a will to act in those who see?"

"This noble church deserves your finest work.
Why can we not, while carrying on tradition,
Find some new way to freshen holiness?
But our great church frowns heavily on new ways."

"May I not paint with freedom on the walls
The brave strong figure of an athlete youth?
For had not Christ, the greatest man of all,
A beauty radiant as the rising sun?"

"Yea, he had that and more; and yet, my son,
The churchly fathers hold that nobleness
Lies only in the soul, while outward form
Should only show the burning fire within".

"But does not glorious strength appeal to men,
As symbol of that inward force unseen?"

"Yea, truly, but the glory-loving Greeks,
Who rose because perfection was their guide,
Once risen, fell, when losing that ideal.
One must not worship beauty but the spirit".

"The Christian church is founded on that rock.
Cannot ideals be made yet more ideal?
Our thought of Christ is but a memory dim
Presented by pale colors in faint light.
May I not represent Him as a youth
Leading his people vigorously toward right?
He had that strength; he scourged the trading
Jews,

And from his holy temple drove them forth.
Obedient have I been, and painted age
And images with thin and weakened limbs.
Now may I not, with ardent eager brush,
Paint so that all may see and understand
The spirit that lives within revealed without—
And seeing it portrayed in different style,
May learn the many sides of perfectness?"

"Young man, you speak full well. Be on your way
To unveil glories that should be unveiled".

HAVE YOU RENEWED YOUR SUBSCRIPTION?

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TRUTH, REVERENCE AND SERVICE

An Editorial

The three words, "Truth, Worship and Service" comprise our Y. P. R. U. motto. The first and last of these are accepted by all right-thinking, forward-looking people as essential to rich and effective life. I fear, however, that the second word, Worship, has worked its way into this noble triad under false colors—masquerading as something which it isn't.

When a liberal says "worship", what he or she really means is "reverence". And it must be distinctly remembered that the two words are not synonymous. If we think they are, we deceive ourselves. "Reverence" is a worthy attribute of the character of the true liberal—but "worship" has no place in our scheme of things.

"Worship", said that mighty thinker, Robert G. Ingersoll, "is a bribe that fear offers to power". Worship calls to memory the poor savage, trembling at the forces of nature he does not understand, and offering pitiful propitiations to a vengeful diety. Worship conjures up the picture of priest-ridden peasants bowing in abject servility and listening dumbly to incantations droned in the vaulted arches of shadowy cathedrals, calling vainly for supernatural favor. Worship is the act of an abject slave, cringing before his master, begging to be spared the lash or halter.

Worship cannot exist apart from servility. And servility is unworthy of the liberal, whose guiding star is his faith in the divinity of humanity—whose hope is the constant growth and development of the divine spark within his own breast—who feels God within himself and his fellows—not on some far-off throne above the skies.

The idea of worship degrades the conception of God. To believe that God desires the humiliation and servility of his creatures is to make God out a "second-rate boss". We could not respect such a man—why should we attribute such a character to God?

Worship and self-respect are mutually exclusive. Let us be true to ourselves, and eliminate the word from our motto which gives an erroneous impression of our aims and ideals.

Why not "Truth, Reverence and Service" as the Y. P. R. U. watch-cry?

W. N. C.

NOTICE

After May first, the Pegasus Publication office will be located in the new offices of New York Unitarian Headquarters, Room 1104, 285 Madison Avenue, New York, N. Y.

ANSWER THIS ONE

Do you think that Pegasus is fulfilling a real need of the Y. P. R. U.? Are you interested in having it become an established magazine? Do you think it is of enough interest to Y. P. R. U. members to keep it going on borrowed money?

Will you be good enough to drop a line to the Publication office and tell us whether you think we should continue at a loss, on the chance that we shall get 800 new subscribers next year, or whether you think we should discontinue? This doubt has come about because there are over 250 subscriptions which have not been renewed when they expired. We would like to hear from you before April 24th. Your answers and response may decide the future of Pegasus.

Y. P. R. U. Idea Exchange

Conducted by PRISCILLA HARDING

Dear Editor:—

It is not often that I am sufficiently disturbed by an article in any periodical to be moved to write to the Editor. An article in the March Pegasus did touch a tender nerve, however, and I trust that you will pardon my intrusion into your sanctum. I refer to the article entitled "It must never happen again," by Homer M. Rockwell.

I am not a very bellicose individual. I belong to no military organization, nor do I believe in compulsory military training. A very short term as "buck private" during the world war makes up my sole adventure in soldiering,—and I did not like army life. I do not want the United States to be involved in war,—nor do I see any prospect that she will be so involved in the near (or even in the distant) future.

But, until the present political organization of the World is changed, war is not an impossibility. We must face that unpleasant fact. "It must never happen again,"—but if it does, I hope that America will have men who will put principle above life. "War is the most terrible catastrophe that can happen to a race of people, with just one exception,—dishonor."

A. E. L.
Providence, R. I.

Dear Editor:—

Congratulations for hitting the ball with the article by Homer Rockwell. That's a real piece (or peace) of live journalism which I believe in and think we should push.

P. K. Chicago

It was with sincere regret that we accepted the resignation of our popular and capable President, H. Weston Howe, who has taken a position in Philadelphia,

The Metropolitan Federation

Y. P. R. U.
Conference Scholarships

(Travel and Hotel Expenses)

Awarded by the

Unitarian Temperance Society

To the writers of the

THREE BEST ESSAYS

on the subject

"What Shall the Nations of the World do About Alcohol?"

All essays must be in by April 30, 1927

For particulars address

Rev. Carlyle Summerbell, Secretary,

16 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

ANNOUNCEMENT

Conference of 1927

at

ISLES OF SHOALS

—June 25 to July 9—

YOUNG PEOPLE'S RELIGIOUS UNION

Thomas W. Hoag, Chairman

Registration blanks may be had upon application to

MISS SARA COMINS,
16 Beacon Street, Boston, Mass.

Room assignments will be made in order of application. Address Miss Comins for further information.

WHAT-NOT?

Sparks from the Heels of Pegasus

"Whan that Aprille with his shoures soote" descends upon the barren world, man again proceeds to strum the lyric lute. In the stately measures of a sonnet by Robert B. Doing, of Brooklyn, we hail the vernal season:

Sometimes, to us who gaze upon a land
O'erwhelmed by icy storms, naked, bereft
Of charms, a glaring vista that the hand
Of Winter in a wrathful mood has left
Unbeautiful, not deigning ev'n to lay
On Earth a blanket white, but with a wind
Here piles the snow feet high, there leaves the clay
Windswept and bare; in all unjust, unkind;
There comes a day when to our sight the world
Presents another view. The ground is bare
In patches still, the snow the wind has whirled
So wrathfully in heaps still lies, but there
Is over all a breath, a promise sweet—
And joyfully the note of Spring we greet.

* * * * *

Now in the lilting staves of the Rubaiyat, these "Revamped Quatrains" by Fred McGill Jr., "dedicated to all Shoals athletes, including the Scandinavian":

Come, fill the Page, and in the Fire of Spring
Your Garment of Procrastination fling;
The flying Steed must strike a Spark or two,
And Horses! He is nearly on the Wing.

Myself when young did eagerly frequent
Old Gosport Green, and made great Argument
On Strikes and Balls, but ever left the Plate,
The Score remaining as when up I went.

But now along that Strip of Garden strown
That just divides the Gravel from the sown,
I razz the Players from my side-line Seat,
And boo and mew and cheer and jeer and groan.

The Ball no Question makes of Eyes and Nose,
But lands where'er the gentle Fielder throws;
Her irate Team-Mate may not speak his Mind,
But She knows what he thinks—She knows—SHE knows!

Ah, make the most of that long seaward Clout,
Though thou must swallow Dust to stretch it out—
Dust is but Dust, and Slowness means Defeat,
Sans Glory—and sans Trophy-Ball, sans Doubt.

Behold no other than a moving Row
Of transient Batsmen that do come and go,
Fanning the Ball until the fatal Cry
Of "Strike Three!" by the Master of the Show.

The trophied Hope they set their Hearts upon
Turns Ashes, is forgotten; and anon
The Twilight drapes her Cloak upon the Green,
And Rivalries are fading—and are gone.

* * * * *

And that, unless we are very forgetful, is the most skilful parody we have ever read.

* * * * *

Up until two weeks ago we were a Pacifist, a Socialist, a Prohibitionist and a Unitarian. We used to get vastly stirred up over our Principles. We would have bled for The Cause, and did succeed in perspiring for it now and again. But what folly it is, after all. An article in this month's issue of a well-known young people's religious magazine has brought us around to the light. All this time we have been on the wrong side of The Fence. A propagandist must not plead his own Cause too strenuously. In fact, speaking with one's heart full is more reprehensible a habit than speaking with one's mouth full. It is not only annoying; "it makes converts for the other side." To know how true this is, we have only to remember the unfortunate episode in history that transpired on a certain Friday of this month, centuries ago, when darkness came over all the land. What utter, utter folly for that young man to have preached his extreme gospel of brotherly love, rousing the chief priests against him and bestirring the rabble to spit upon him! Heroism and Idealism? Well, yes. But certainly not Common Sense.

Up until two weeks ago we were a Pacifist, a Socialist, a Prohibitionist and a Unitarian. Today we stand for rampant Militarism, Fundamentalism, the Ku Klux Klan, flag-waving jingoism, and the apotheosis of Rum *And may the Humpty-Dumpties gathering splinters atop of fences get to hate us like poison.*

* * * * *

Mabel-Louize spreads out a tapestry of words—of patterned loveliness and strength of texture:

Words. What are words? The breath of human life
Poured into sounds, and scattered far and wide
To all who listen; full of thought, and rife
With meanings that in memory abide
Long after sound, their vehicle, has gone,
The soul of words, their thought, still lingers on.

And what are words? They are the mortal frames
That house immortal messages to friends.
The loving wish, that friendship kindly names,
Grows still more precious, though the speaking ends,
As daily thought enriches all it holds,
And learns the greater value it unfolds.

But what are words? They oft are poisoned darts,
That wound more deeply than the tempered steel.
Harsh words cut deep—they break the gentle hearts
So helpless and unarmored, that can feel
More sorrow from the spoken word, than all
The blows that from the arm of foe could fall.

Still, what are words? They are the gifts of grace,
Strong to relieve the suffering of men.
The word of comfort, spoken in the place
Of anguish, brings the sunshine back again.
God's love shines through kind speech; why, then, should not
All words except the kindest be forgot?

* * * * *

*"In going over our subscription records we found there were still many folks whose subscriptions ran out as far back as September and while we feel you have only overlooked renewing, you know we cannot afford to lose your support, because we need it urgently! * * We want your comments, your inquiries, your suggestions, BUT in order to grow steadily and surely, we must have your subscriptions!"*—Anne Ardoom, Circulation Manager of "Pegasus," in the March number.

"MAMMON IS MASTER OF THE MUSE"

Though the wood thrush, northward turning,
Trills his minstrelsy anew—
Though the quickening grasses, yearning,
Drink the morning's vernal dew—
Though the tender maples redden
'Neath the ardent April's stare—
Still my rimes fall flat and leaden
On a desert air.

Glancing over last month's pages
Came I to that comment terse
Wherein Anne our doom presages,
Owing to a cobwebbed purse.
Hence my heart no bird is cheering.
Bitter is the cup I drink.
I would liefer write while hearing
Golden shekels clink.

Anne, you're quite the veterinarian;
You have diagnosed aright.
Now if every Unitarian
Succors the Pegasian plight,
He'll increase his get in volumes.
Printer, have this underlined:
And he'll have some better colyumes
By the undersigned!

HANS AXEL WALLEEN